

sex chromatin variants, which includes recent developments in this rapidly changing discipline. Under gynecologic problems of puberty and adolescence chapters on normal endocrinology and steroid metabolism, the various aspects of menstrual dysfunction, hirsutism, and pelvic pain are presented. The discussion is written from a comprehensive patho-physiologic point of view. In the section on gynecological problems of young women, sterility, pelvic infections and certain disorders of pregnancy are adequately presented. Of particular interest is an excellent chapter on sexual physiology which serves as a background for a discussion of marital counseling and the management of sexual problems, another area which is rarely adequately treated in gynecological texts. Other valuable chapters include those on reproductive tract neoplasms, the management of the menopause, and of problems in geriatric gynecology. A generous documentation of the facts presented is given with carefully selected references placed at the ends of the chapters, and these references are conveniently subdivided under subject headings. The index of 54 pages has obviously been carefully compiled and cross-referenced, and adds considerably to the utility of the text.

Some readers may regret the absence of the usual textbook section on operations. The authors, however, are unapologetic about this omission, as they state this is not a surgical atlas and their decision has much to commend it. In relation to the overall excellence of this full presentation, the small points of dispute melt into insignificance, as there is much to commend and little to criticize. Due to the arrangement of diseases into various decades there is of necessity some duplication, as in each section chapters are devoted to the problems of bleeding in that period of life. This of course necessitates some jumping around in order to follow certain topics. In some chapters there is also seemingly undue repetition, as in the chapter on carcinoma of the cervix where the fact that undetected lymph node metastasis in State I carcinoma of the cervix is seen frequently is mentioned six times.

Despite the fact that this marks at least the tenth textbook of gynecology to be published in the English language in the past three years, we agree with Dr. Miegs' introductory comment that this is truly one of the great books of recent years, and in spite of the authors' prefatory remarks that they will promise never to do this sort of thing again, we predict that this most elegant and useful text is likely to reappear again in successive editions, to which we may look forward. This important book can be warmly recommended to all students, practitioners and gynecologic specialists.

LAWRENCE D. LONGO, M.D.

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TEXTBOOK OF ENDOCRINOLOGY—Third Edition, Illustrated—Edited by Robert H. Williams, M.D., Chief, Endocrinology and Metabolism Division, and Physician-in-Chief, University Hospital; Executive Officer and Professor of Medicine, University of Washington Medical School, Seattle, Washington. With contributions by twenty-one authorities. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1962. 1204 pages, \$21.00.

A vast amount of rapidly accumulating information indicates that hormones influence every body cell and that endocrine function is a factor in almost every major disease. The tremendous progress in this field during the past few years made obsolete the Second Edition of William's *Textbook of Endocrinology*, published in 1955. The Third Edition is, therefore, essentially a new book, with an expansion of its contents from 776 to 1004 pages. More than 70 per cent has been written by new authors and much of the remainder has been rewritten. New authors have written the

chapters on the pituitary, testes, ovaries, pancreas, neuro-endocrinology, and laboratory tests, and there are new co-authors for the chapters on the thyroid and parathyroids. There are eight new chapters, with almost entirely new content or approaches. One chapter, "Disorders in Sex Differentiation," summarizes the information in this interesting field. Similarly, "Genetics and Endocrinology" covers this area. Two chapters summarize the significant effects of hormones upon protein metabolism and upon water and electrolyte metabolism. Recent progress has made it desirable to include individual chapters on "The Pineal Gland," "Hormones and Cancer," and "Hypoglycemia."

The chapter dealing with obesity in previous editions has been extensively enlarged to deal with Lipid Metabolism and Lipopathies, in recognition of the prominent role of the endocrines in this field. Consideration is given to basic aspects of various phases of lipid metabolism and to disorders in lipid metabolism (lipopathies), including atherosclerosis, obesity, xanthomatosis, and sphingolipidosis.

One chapter deals with endocrine problems in children, and two short chapters deal individually with the general principles and laws of endocrinology and general principles in the diagnosis and treatment of endocrinopathies. In this last chapter, commonly used endocrine products are considered. Several chapters discuss pseudoendocrine disorders and the use of hormones (glucosteroids, sex steroids) for treating such nonendocrine disorders as cancer, collagen diseases, and allergic disorders.

The reviewer considers this an outstanding text. It covers an enormous amount of material. Despite the general excellence it is sometimes difficult to isolate individual endocrine problems in the contents of the book. The use of more tables is suggested, e.g., tables of the different tests of adrenal function listing their normal values, physiological and pathological variations and significance.

William's *Textbook of Endocrinology* is recommended highly to internists, general practitioners, and students with an interest in endocrinology.

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.

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SKIN SURGERY—Second Edition, Thoroughly Revised—Ervin Epstein, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology, University of California Medical School; Formerly Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Dermatology), Stanford University Medical School; Chief of Dermatology and Syphilology at Highland-Alameda County Hospital. Lea & Febiger, Washington Square, Philadelphia 6, Pa., 1962. 339 pages, 472 illustrations on 175 figures and a colored plate, \$10.00.

Dr. Epstein called attention in the preface to the first edition of this book, which was published in 1956, that over twenty per cent of patients seen in the practice of dermatology can be treated by some surgical method. He noted, also, the lack of adequate training in surgical methods in many of the resident programs for dermatologists. A great many operations on the skin are done by those in general practice or in other medical specialties. Except, perhaps, in cold steel surgery, the training of this large group in the various modalities of skin surgery also leaves much to be desired.

This book represents an attempt to present for all those concerned the indications and techniques for all of the various dermatological surgical procedures.

Dr. Epstein has, himself, written seven of the twenty-one chapters in this 336-page book and collaborated in one more. The other thirteen chapters have been contributed by others (fifteen in all) whom he chose because of their training and experience in the topics presented.